SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace paragraph 5 of the published specification with the following (the paragraph 5 corrections are located at page 2, lines 13-14 of the submitted specification):

[0005] According to the present invention there is provided a thermoplastic can comprising a thermoplastic body having a disc like top moulded as one with a tubular element defining the sides of the body and extending downwardly from the peripheral portions of the top; means associated with the top to facilitate opening by an end user, a thermoplastic base member having an externally directed protrusion adapted to engage a relatively thin walled recess in the radially internally facing lower peripheral portion of the body thereby effecting a permanent seal at the base of the container after filling thereof, the wall thickness of the lower peripheral portion of the body below the ~~thinwalled~~ thin walled recess exceeding that of the ~~thinwalled~~ thin walled recess.

Please replace paragraph 16 of the published specification with the following (the paragraph 16 correction is located at page 5, line 1 of the submitted specification):

[0016] In order for the ~~thinwalled~~ thin walled area of lower extremity 6 of tubular element 5 to deform outwardly during installation of the base and thereafter it is desirable that the wall of the element at this point be between 0.15 mm and 0.7 mm.

Please replace paragraph 15 of the published specification with the following (the paragraph 15 correction is located at page 4, line 23 of the submitted specification):

[0015] It will be observed that the wall of the lower extremity 6 of tubular element 5 adjacent recess 9 is considerably thinner than the thickness of the bottom of lower extremity 6 of tubular element 5 therebeneath. This differential in thickness of the wall at the positions adjacent to the seal between recess 9 and protrusion 8 and therebeneath permits minor radially outward movement of the thin walled area of the recess 9 and also radially inward creeping of the thicker walled area beneath the undercut due to the superior "memory" of the thermoplastic material at the thicker walled area of lower extremity 6 as compared with the thinner walled area of the extremity adjacent recess 9 after insertion of protrusion 8. The difference in memory is due to the fact that the thinner walled area is subject to some plastic deformation as opposed to the more elastic deformation of the thicker walled area Polyolefins, PET and PEN will exhibit this useful behaviour. During installation of base 7 into opening 6a initially the bottom of lower extremity 6 of tubular element 5 tends to move radially outwardly. The post base installation movements tend to increase the integrity of the seal formed at the recess 9. In this embodiment a secondary seal is also effected at 10 by the containment of flexible upper annular peripheral extension 11 of base 7 within arcuate recess 12 in tubular element 5. This secondary seal can adopt a number of forms although it is envisaged that it will commonly take the form of a collapsible membrane or compressed pyramid shaped sealing ring moulded into the ~~base 5~~ base 7 and being compressed when the base is inserted into tubular element 5.

Please replace paragraph 21 of the published specification with the following (the paragraph 21 correction is located at page 6, line 8 of the submitted specification):

[0021] It will be appreciated therefore that the embodiment depicted with reference to FIG. 3 contains a secondary seal at 10 and a primary seal at recess 9 with the seal effected at recess 9 also comprising a mechanical interference fit which prevents removal of the base 7 after sealing of the open base of the can 1.

Please replace paragraph 18 of the published specification with the following (the paragraph 18 correction is located at page 5, line 12 of the submitted specification):

[0018] The outermost edge 13 of protrusion 8 which is responsible for biting into the ~~thinwalled~~ thin walled area of recess 9 may vary in profile but preferably it should have a radius of between zero and two mm. Faces 14 and 15 of recess 9 must of ~~course to be~~ course be angled and shaped so as to be complementary to the protrusion faces 6 and 17 respectively as well as outermost edge 13 of protrusion 8 to facilitate an adequate seal.

Please replace paragraph 19 of the published specification with the following (the paragraph 19 correction is located at page 5, lines 15-16 of the submitted specification):

[0019] Ideally the relationship between ~~the faces 14, and 16 of protrusion 8 and the recess 9~~ the face 16 of the protrusion 8 and the face 14 of the recess 9 should be such as to provide for an interference of approximately 0.05 mm at all points around the periphery of the base 7. In the embodiment depicted herein the outermost edge 13 extends into a flat inclined surface 14 therebeneath and in such embodiments it is desirable that such flat edge 14 lies an angle between 15 to 45 degrees (and preferably between 24 to 32 degrees) from the vertical and mates with similarly inclined surface 16 in recess 9.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph 10 of the published specification (the paragraph addition is after page 3, line 2 of the submitted specification):

Fig. 5 is a detailed view of the circled area in Fig. 4 – that is, a detailed view of the peripheral edge of the base showing the protrusion.
Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a can in accordance with the present invention, without the base being shown.
Fig. 7 is a detail view of the circled area in Fig. 6 – that is, a detailed view of the lower peripheral portion of the tubular element showing the arcuate recess.